

SULLIVAN & CROMWELL

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August 18, 1948.

MATTER _____

Maj. General R. H. Van Deman,
 3141 Curlew Street,
 San Diego 3, California.

Dear General Van Deman:

Thank you for your good letter of August 10. I remember with pleasure our association during World War I and, while you may not know it, I tried my best when I took up work with the OSS in 1942, to see whether there was any chance of getting you on hereto the East to advise us, as I knew then of your work which subsequent events have so thoroughly vindicated.

It just happened that when I received your letter I was sitting with our mutual friend, Chris Herter, and he and I both cudgelled our brains for the name of the man to whom you refer but with no success. I shall keep at it because names have a funny way of jumping into one's head at odd moments and, unfortunately, I find jumping out just the moment you want to recall them.

Confidentially, although radio commentators and columnists have already publicized it, I have been asked, together with two associates, to make an independent review of the intelligence set-up in Washington, starting particularly with the CIA but also considering the Service Intelligences. While I can only give part-time to this, we have a small but, I believe, efficient staff working away at this in the Pentagon and we are receiving good cooperation there.

If out of the wealth of your great experience you would feel that you could put down any ideas for me, I would greatly appreciate it. What I would like to get would be your overall views on the fundamentals.

Sincerely,

A. W. Dulles